



# EASTERN IOWA DX ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER

(SUMMER 1984)

WOMJN/RPTR 144.59/145.19

## EIDXA Officers:

President: Joe Finkstein WOMJN  
Secretary: Gary Letchford K0L0Z  
Vice President: Tom Lindgren W0WP

## The President's Corner.....

By now, all of you should have received the the "mailer" announcing the next EIDXA meeting; which will also be our first annual dinner meeting for members and their XYL's/YL's. This meeting will be held on Saturday June 16, 1984; and promises to be a highlight of the 1983-84 EIDXA calendar. As noted in the mailer, this meeting will not only be a fun social event, it will also be a good opportunity for us to say "thank you" to the ladies who often have to hold down the fort while we are busy DXing and contesting. Two interesting video taped programs have been planned for the meeting, both of which should really be enjoyable. The first is an outstanding ARRL production entitled "Amateur Radio's Newest Frontier", which is centered around WSLFL's historic STS flight. The second program is an exceptional multimedia production entitled "The First 50 Years", which is a fast paced recollection of the history of Collins Radio. Both programs will be enjoyable to our members and their ladies. Just in case some of you forgot to tell your lady that you are taking her out for an evening, here again are some of the particulars:

WHERE: The Longbranch Supper Club  
90 Twixt Town Rd. N.E.  
Cedar Rapids, Iowa

WHEN: Saturday- June 16, 1984

TIME: Cocktails- 6:00 PM  
Dinner- 7:00 PM  
Program- 8:00 PM

MENU: Salad Bar  
Choice Of Prime Rib or Shrimp  
Potatoes

COST: \$12.25 Per Person/\$24.50 Per Couple  
(Includes Tax and Tip)

PROGRAMS: "Amateur Radio's Newest Frontier"  
"Collins Radio-The First 50 Years"

If you miss this one, you probably won't get to "play radio" any more; at least not at your house.

On behalf of the entire EIDXA, I want to take this opportunity to congratulate W0IZ; who, on May 25th 1984, celebrated the anniversary of his first 50 years in ham radio. Atta boy Dale....may you have at least another 50 more.

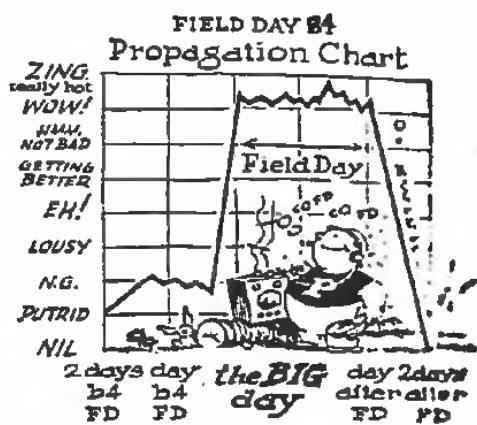
One final note, the W4NIM computerized RTTY Radio Bulletin Board System (RBBS) has been up and running on a full time basis since the end of April. If you haven't got your computer on RTTY yet, you are really missing out. The RBBS now contains hot DX tips, daily WWV propagation forecasts, ARRL bulletins, and much more. As more people use the RBBS and put information on it, the more useful it will become. Come join us on 147.45 MHz.

I hope to see all of you for a fun evening on June 16th.

73

Joe-WOMJN

## Field Day Propagation...



## Our Newest Members....

The following members were voted in as Full members at the May meeting.....

NOSM, Steve Miller  
129 Ottumwa  
Ottumwa, Iowa 52501  
home phone: (515) 684-4753  
work phone: (515) 683-4444

Steve is an Extra class amateur, ARRL lifetime member, has 235 countries worked and 218 confirmed, handles traffic, and of course likes dxing.

Steve's station includes a TS930S, Alpha 78, Classic 33 and Inverted Vees for the low bands. Steve is interested in contesting and upping his DX totals. He also expresses interest in getting on RTTY and AMTOR.

KOJ6H, Glen Kesselring  
R.R. #7-Box 160  
Ottumwa, Iowa 52501  
home phone: (515) 934-5320  
work phone: (515) 682-8714

Glen is an Extra amateur, has 298 countries worked and 296 confirmed, and contesting.

Glen's station includes SB102 w/Autek and SB-300, Homebrew keyboard, TR9000 FM/CW/SSB 2 meter rig, TA 33, 4 element quad, dipoles, and a two meter beam at 55 feet.

Glen is very interested in 5 band country chasing, contesting, two meter dxing, and computing.

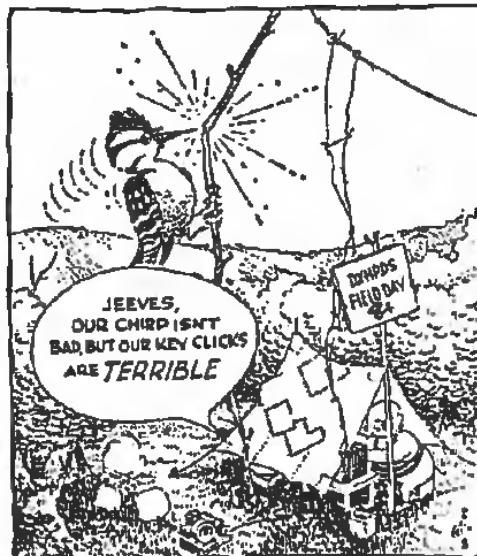
WA9YZN, Tom Vinson  
10211 Hall Rd.  
Cedar Rapids, Iowa 52401  
home phone: (319) 393-8087  
work phone: (319) 395-4704

Tom is an Advanced class amateur, has 258 countries worked and 250 confirmed.

Tom's station includes a TS530S, four element tri-bander, and low band dipoles.

He is interested in DXing, contesting, and RTTY. TOM

has been instrumental in the ADOC operation celebrating the 50th anniversary of Collins Radio.



## Upcoming events....

June 14-17 All Asian Phone contest  
starts: 0000z Saturday  
ends: 2400z Sunday

June 23-24 ARRL Field Day  
1800-2100z Saturday-Sunday

July 14-15 IARU Radio Sport Contest  
full 48 hours

Tnx to the following people for inputs to the Newsletter: W0MHN, W0EJ, K0VIR, and W0EAN a very special tnx (THE PRINTING)'

## Spring 1984 Minutes...

Minutes of the EIDXA meeting of May 5, 1984. The meeting was called to order by President WOMJN at 7:40 at the REC Building in Marion.

Members in attendance were: WOMJN, WOMP, KKOR, KZOC, WOPPF, KOFC, KDOHY, N9BD, KCOXK, KOVZR, KOVM, WOSML, NOAFL, WDOANL, WOSR, WOVX, KOAL, K06T, A6OZ, KOGVB, KBOPR, KFOZ, W4NIM, KOJSY, KJOD, NBOH, KCQD, KDOB, and WOEJ.

Visitors in attendance were: KAOCEH, WA4LHB, WA9YZN, KOJSH, NOSM, KAOENZ, Patti (KOGVB's IYL & acting secretary), and Chris a SWL from CR.

The minutes from the Winter meeting was read by WOMJN and it was noted by WOMP that there was an error in the minutes regarding the frequency of the RBBS RTTY system which should read "147.45 Mhz".

Balance of the EIDXA treasury is \$260.25.

KOFC, Craig, was congratulated for a fine job on the latest club QSL order.

Repeater report from KOVM, Al, noted that there was no down time on the .19 machine this winter with good VSWR and no link noise.

WOEJ, Wade, reported on the Want-list. He noted there is room for a couple more participants.

It was decided to have a dinner meeting Saturday June 16th at the Long Branch Super Club. The club voted to have the \$12.25 per person dinner (prime rib or shrimp). WOVX agreed to confirm the reservations. A hand count showed 25 couples would attend. A mailer would be sent out within 10 days to each member confirming his attendance June 16th.

K2OC briefed all on the volunteer licencing rules and requirements to qualify for the program. It was decided that the club will not sponsor or solicit volunteers at this time.

KUOA was to be presented with his membership certificate but was not in attendance. KOFC agreed to pass it along to him. KUOA also is upgraded to Full membership with his 102 QSLs confirmed.

Three new Full members were voted into the EIDXA: WA9YZN, Tom Vinson; NOSM, Steve Miller; KOJSH, Glen Keaselring.

WOSR reported on the DXAC's recent activity.

Ideas for the dinner meeting program was discussed. WOMP suggested KOCS's dx trip to the south pacific slide show might be pursued. KOVZR recommended Jim Smith's Heard Island trip might be appropriate. KOAL suggested Ann Peligrino a flyer from Ames has a nice show. WOSR agreed to pursue the latter suggestion.

KOAL moved to adjourn the meeting. KFOZ seconded the motion and the meeting was adjourned at 8:55.

A slide show with a cassette tape was shown of the recent Pribilof Island DXpedition compliments of the Alaska DX Association. The second part of the program was a live demo of the W4NIM and WOMJN bulletin board system. Both programs were great.

## KOVZR letter to VU2GDG....

dated March 23, 1984

Dear Gopal:

I am writing for myself and the members of the Eastern Iowa DX Association. We would like to thank you and the other operators for the fine operation you recently concluded on the Laccadive Islands.

The effort of all the operators was exceptional as they battled propagation and the severe pile-ups. Poise and patient were always in evidence. We were all pleased with the WCY call sign as it is a reminder of the world-wide nature of our hobby.

Now, as the QSL's are coming out, we are anxiously awaiting your next project. We hope the Andaman's can be brought up in the near future. Thanks and 73.

Yours truly,

Tom KOVZR

## This Quarters Tidbits....

W4NIM, Bob, has been busy as usual with all his travels although he found time to do a little antenna repair work recently. Bob has got the RBB5 system running superbly from his QTH! We all really appreciate the 'full' time use of Bob's two meter radio and Apple II system.....

It was sure nice to see Roger N4RR and his XYL Kathy at Dayton this year. Roger has found his move to Rockfalls very time consuming but with the Summer weather in bloom we know Roger finds time to do hole digging and tower climbing at his new QTH. We are looking forward to hearing you Rog!

The Waterloo DX community is shrinking. Terry, KDOHY, is moving down to Arkansas next month. Terry is one of the newer members of the EIDXA and has become one of the more gung-ho contesters in the club. We sure hate to loose a good man like him! Good luck Terry. We'll see you in the pile-ups.

KOINR, Tom from Shell Rock, has been on temporary assignment in North Carolina. He has been maintaining contact back to the locals on 7.290 MHz around 10:30 PM. Tom will be stationed out in NC until some time in July.

KOAL had to attend a recent graduation. His son graduated from University of Iowa and has accepted a Medical Scholarship from the Armed Forces and will be going on to graduate school before entering the Air Force as a Captain. Congratulations to the Culbert's!

KJOD brought his VP2EAJ QSLs to the EIDXA club meeting last month. They are just beautiful. Eric plans on entering the QSL card photograph in the Cedar Rapids Gazette's annual photo contest. I think it has a chance of winning something.....

It was nice seeing some of the locals turn out to have pizza and a beer with Dale WOIZ on May 24th at the Shakey's in Cedar Rapids. This was not a club sponsored event but just a gathering of the locals. Dale brought along a memorabilia book with photos dating way back (maybe he could bring it to the banquet?). The hams in attendance were KC0B, WOEZ, NOBB, NOII, WOFO, NBOH, WOSR, K06T, WOJM, KDOB, WOJP, and of course WOIZ.

KKOR, Bob, and Jim, KZOC, are both sporting new "Kansas City Keyers". These keyers are the new 6502

microprocessor units that are rapidly becoming the "one all the big guns use in contests". At the Dayton Hamvention the keyers were introduced by Lance Johnson Engineering Company marketed especially for the serious contesters. Jeff, KC0Q and Bud, NOII are the designers of the nifty units.

K06VB, Gary, has been busy with the the Spring planting but did take time out to look at his mail. An lo-an-behold the XU1SS QSL from a last Summer's QSO showed! Gary is now sporting all active DXCC countries with exception of XZ (which he worked and confirmed but...) and ZA. Patty, Gary's XYL, is taking novice lessons in Iowa City and hopefully soon she will be owning a new call-sign!

Jim, WOSR, just picked up another Vic 20 and another TV. Both are new additions to his ham shack and will soon be generating RTTY DX QSOs. Jim has been extra busy with the DXAC business and with his busy work schedule doesn't find much time to play radio. The Editor has the gut feeling that Jim will get the RTTY bug and find a little extra time!

K0VZR is still collecting those forty meter cards for his five band DXCC. Tom is just needing a couple and most probably will be over the hump by meeting time. I might mention too that Tom did a nice job with the enclosed note to VU2GDG regarding the Laccadive operation. On behalf of the club, Thanks Tom!

Gary, K06T, picked up a new ICOM at the Dayton Hamfest this year. Gary said his XYL has been keeping him so busy that very few hours have been logged on the new jewel.

KBOPR and KFOZ can both be found occasionally ragchewing on RTTY up on 28 MHz. Larry is using a Radio Shack Color Computer with homebrew TU and Jan (the master at the keys) is using a Robot unit. Jan also has found a new passtime during his long hours on the road to and from work, he is HF mobiling with a SBE unit newly installed in his auto. He has been using both 40 and 20 meters SSB.

WOMJM, Club President Joe, is selling his old Epson printer and updating to a new one that will go over 200cpi! Joe has been using the RBB5 system almost daily and occasionally catching a new one on the ham bands. It looks like another exceptional program orchestrated by Joe for our upcoming dinner meeting.

Dale WOIZ picked up a Heath monitor scope and a new FT 102 at Dayton. He is still waiting for one of those hard to get remote VFOs for the 102. He had been

picking up those easy ones on RTTY, SSBs, QVs, AMBs, FOBs, ZP5s, and ISOs! Dale said its just like being a novice all over again.

WOEJ is now QRV on the Satellites. Wade is also contemplating putting up a 40 meter yagi this season.

NOGA, Stan, is working in Texas for the Summer but I'm sure will be back for his favorite contests this Fall. Stan has become the man to beat in the Sweepstakes Iowa section CW.

KOJGM, Glenn, lost his 4 element quad this Spring. Need not worry he has a backup antenna for any rare DXpedition that might show.

NOAFL has been heard a little more in recent weeks. Dave was planning on going to Dayton this year but his employer had a New Orleans trip planned instead.

It was nice seeing Matt, KBOV, at Dayton. He said to pass along his best to the gang. Matt and Steve, AKOM, are trying to drum up a little DX fever down in the St. Louis area.

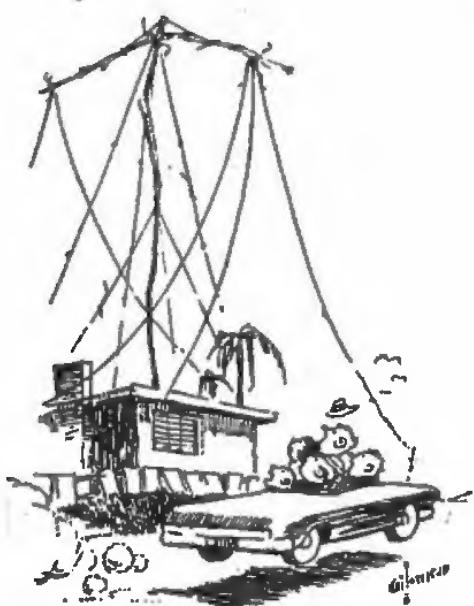
WOUZ, John, has been busy with domestic things like his son's recent marriage. John can be found occasionally on 40 or 20 meter CW working DX. Hopefully with some of the high priority items out of the way we will be hearing him more often.

WOUX has been out of town often as of late. Dave is just waiting for a couple of cards to roll in to complete his 5 band DXCC plaque. He did a super job organizing the 80 meter wantlist this last winter! Hopefully someone will organize one this next season.

That is it for this Quarter's Tidbits.....

Good DX

de WOJP



#### Dayton 1984.....

"Excellent, First Class, Awesome" are some of the words to describe this years Hamvention. The weather was just perfect, the dealers were there with their wares, and the forums were interesting. This years attendance was reported to be over 30,000!

There was a very big turnout from the EIDXA: KC0Q, NBOH, KOGVB, WOEJ, WDOAWL, WOIZ, WOJP, K0ST, K0JSY, KCOXK, WOEAN, WOPFF, KBOV, K0VZR, N4RR, A60Z, and KKOR (sorry if I left anybody out that was in attendance). It was very interesting driving over in a caravan using two meters to coordinate the stops and turn-offs.

If you have never attended Dayton, you just can't imagine what you are missing!

#### The Market Place....

For Sale: Epson MX-80/FT printer with Graphtrax, all manuals, two extra ribbons; \$299. Apple interface card and cable \$75.

WOMJN, Joe (319) 377-6573

For Sale: Something for everyone: Vic-20; HF Rig package- FT-901DM, FV-901DM, and SP-901; All mode 2 meter rig IC-290A and power supply. If you are interested contact:  
Wade WOEJ (319) 393-8982

For Sale: Wilson 4 element 20 meter yagi  
KD0Q, Glenn (319) 366-0285

#### DX Want Lists....

Attention DX Want Listers: The next issue of the Wantlist is scheduled for publication on July 1. Be sure to give me your updates before then. This is especially important for those with t's by their names on the list.

de WOEJ

## DXing and Contesting....

### Oblast..

There have been some changes in oblasts since the new callsigns have been assigned in the USSR:

Oblast nr

Kiev city.....186  
Sevastopol city.187  
Minsk city.....188  
Tashkent city...189  
Alma-ata city...190  
Ashkhabad city..191

And the Arctic and Antarctic oblasts, 171 and 172, have been struck off the R-100-0 list.

(tnx ORZ DX)

### Contests....

#### WPX CW 1983

ABOI (KJOD "Eric" operator) 1st place Zero land! 7th place U.S.A.!!!!

AKOM 33,948 pts all bands

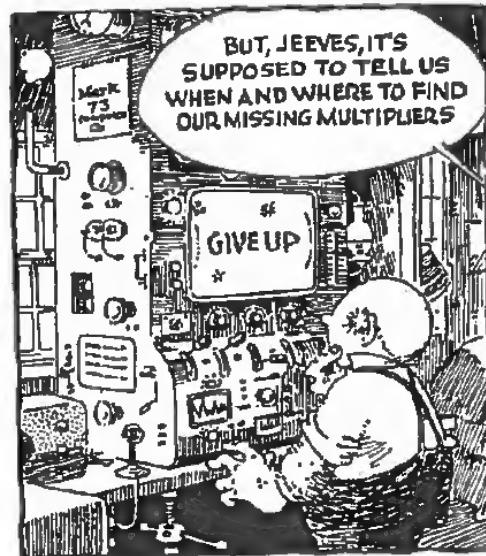
#### Sweepstakes 1983

This was the year of the clean sweep brooms offered by ARRL for working sweeps in the contest. On CW NOGA, WOEJ, WOIZ, and KCOQ did it. On SSB WOEJ, KOJGH, AKOM, KOLUZ, KOINR, and WOIZ (not listed in results due to flub up at headquarters). Congratulations all! Also it was nice to see Brian, KCOXK's, photograph on page 92 of May QST. It was great seeing that both first places in the Iowa section were won by EIDX members this year, congratulation Stan, NOGA and Wade, WOEJ!!!!

#### Sweepstakes CW

points QSOs Sec Hrs Pwr

NOGA	149,036	1007	74	24	B	1st
KOLUZ	143,226	981	73	24	B	2nd
WOIZ	125,659	849	74	24	B	3rd
KCOXK	59,540	458	65	23	B	5th
WOIZ	21,312	144	74	20	A	10th
KCOQ	20,720	140	74	10	A	11th



#### Sweepstakes SSB

points QSOs Sec Hrs Pwr

WOEJ	170,200	1150	74	24	B	1st
KOJGH	95,312	644	74	24	A	2nd
KCOXK	91,440	635	72	23	B	3rd
KBOV	66,430	455	73	22	A	4th
AKOM	62,752	424	74	14	A	5th
NOGA	41,860	322	65	6	B	8th
WOPPF	34,272	252	68	19	B	10th
KMOQ	31,220	223	70	14	A	11th
KOGT	8,704	68	64	7	A	18th
KOLUZ (and KOINR, KBOFP)						
	48,100	325	74	12	B	
KOINR (and KOLUZ, KBOFP)						
	32,708	221	74	19	A	
WOIZ	????	???	74	??	?	

## 1984 International DX Convention

By John Minke, N6JM

DX'ers from all over spent the weekend of 14-15 April at the Holiday Inn in Visalia, California. Each year more and more DX'ers begin arriving early Friday afternoon for informal gatherings that run into the formal DX activities. This year's convention was hosted by the Southern California DX Club, with Frank Cuevas, W6ADA, as Chairman.

This was truly an international affair, where DX'ers from afar included Chito Intanar, DU1CK (of the recent ISICK DXpedition to Spratly Islands); Nana Ihara, JI1VLV (also 5Z4NN); Gopal VU2GDG (of VU7WCY DXpedition to the Laccadive Islands); Julius Lieberman, ZS6AF; Kan Mizoguchi, JA1BK; Yasui Miyazawa, JH1AJT; Ted Tanaka, JH1JGX; Mario Gallavotti, IOMGM (of 1AOKM fame); Marti Laine, DH2BH; Katashi Nose, KH6IJ; Kurt Bindshedler, HB9MX; Albert Mueller, HB9BGN; plus a horde of our Canadian neighbors from the Vancouver area, who really enjoyed the California sunshine that weekend.

The convention was also popular with DX editors. Along with Worldradio's DX Editor (N6JM), we had Hugh Cassidy, WABAUD, of CO; Chod Harris, VP2ML, of 73, Harvey McCoy, W2IYX, of The Long Island DX Bulletin; Bob Winn, WSKNE, of ORZ DX; Jay and Jan O'Brien, W6GO and K6HHD, of the W6GO/K6HHD List, and Albert Mueller, HB9BGN, of a European DX publication.

The Friday evening Cocktail Party was another reason for the many early arrivals. Here the deserving DX'ers exchanged 'eyeball' QSO's with each other, many who have not been together since the last convention. Following the bash, the DX'ers took off for a local eatery of their choice.

### DX Contest Forum

The first of the series of seminars was the DX Contest Forum, chaired by Dick Norton, N2AA. Dick introduced Larry Tyree, N6TR, a member of the ARRL Contest Advisory Committee, who discussed what was happening within their committee. One major subject was the Contest Code of Ethics, but the committee felt this was something that really was not needed. Any other comments were delayed until an informal get-together at the Contest Suite, following the Saturday evening banquet. This reporter was not invited, so we cannot inform you what happened.

The forum was then thrown open for discussion with questions from the floor. There was interest concerning the CD World Wide DX Contest that was held on a holiday weekend in November. As this is the CW weekend, there was an inequity concerning the October SSB contest where no holiday weekend occurs.

Tom Hoyne, N6NI, prepared a petition to have the two contests held on alternate weekends every year. (i.e., the SSB contest would be in October the first year, November the next year, and again in October the third year). A straw vote was taken where most were in favor of such a proposal.

There are four major contests in a five-week period., beginning with the World Wide Contest in November. It was suggested to move the November Sweepstakes to a time where propagation for DX was not as good. It was brought up that the Sweepstakes had been held in November for many years and long before the DX Contests. A poll was taken where most wanted to see the Sweepstakes remain as is.

Other comments and gripes from the floor included things such as duplicate contacts with multi-operator stations and how to eliminate this, and stateside stations calling CW in the DX tests, leaving no free space to hear DX stations.

Another complaint was the failure of DX stations to sign their call after each contact. This, of course, brought out much comment from the floor. Although some DX stations always sign their call after each contact, it was felt that this wasn't required that frequently. In all reality, this problem can never be solved in a DX contest forum.

Dick Norton, N6AA, then narrated a slide presentation of how he operates continuously for 48 hours in a DX contest. Dick heads for Trinidad where he is a guest operator at 9Y4VT. The first thing Dick does is rearrange the station for heavy duty contest operating. Such changes include placing the amplifier right next to the air-conditioner so that the cool air blows directly on the amplifier and not on Dick; placing the microphone on a box so he doesn't have to lean over; and placing T-shirts on the table where his arms will rest. (Remember, he is at this position for 48 hours moving his arms back and forth.)

Dick doesn't take time out for meals and has soup brought to him. Near the end of the contest, Dick drinks much coffee. The first year he didn't and fell asleep (he didn't even know it and wondered how he had missed several minutes time. He discovered this from the tape recorder he uses during contests.) When asked about his other body functions, he remarked that the bathroom was in the next room, and he turned on the automatic CO machine. (of course, many wondered why he called CO for such a long time.) Dick commented that his tongue was raw after talking such a long time, so he had to modify his speech habits with such as "five nine" and 9Y4"Vicker Tango".

This approach of Dick's has worked well for him. Check the results each year in CO and see who is at the top.

### Code Copy Contest

For the last several conventions, Jim Neiger, N6TJ, has given his code copying contest. This is not the normal code copying test, but a test of your ability to copy as many of the DX calls you hear. There were 144 DX call signs sent in a period of less than five minutes. Jim said this was the hardest one yet. He was right, as they were sent at different speeds, different tones-many on top of each other (some slow at one tone right along with some fast ones at different tones). All the calls used were from past DX contests dating back to the 1960's.

To hear the tape was something else. My comments may sound insulting, but it sounded like a "Chinese Orchestra". I only copied seven calls, but then I couldn't get serious enough to make an attempt. The winners were announced at the Sunday breakfast.

### 80 Meter Extravaganza

Prior to the lunch break, Steve Orland, AA6AA; Ed Andress, W6KUT; Glenn Rattoan, N6NA; and Peter Dalton, W6NLZ—"big gun" DX'ers on 80 meters-presented slides and described their own stations. Also scheduled to appear was Dale Hoppe, K6UA, who could not make it as he was out of the country. Often, these DX'ers were accused of hearing "imaginary stations" on this band, as no one else heard them. To show that they did hear those stations, Steve played a tape of the various call working him on that band.

After watching these slides with envy, one begins to rethink his 80-meter position with a plain old inverted Vee.

### DX'ing from the Sovereign Military Order of Malta

Mario Gallavotti, IOMSM, presented an interesting presentation on the development of SMOM (Sovereign Military Order of Malta) station 1AOKM. Back in 1980, there was a severe earthquake in that part of Italy, and Mario and several other amateurs provided emergency communications which impressed SMOM officials, who then welcomed Amateur Radio.

SMOM was formed in the 11th century and was first located on Rhodes and then later on Malta. In the period 1530 to 1798, SMOM was a very powerful nation in the Mediterranean. When the United States was formed, SMOM was offered territory in Pennsylvania for their protection of our shipping in the Mediterranean Sea, but it was turned down.

As operating from SMOM was now approved, the next step was to gain DXCC status. Mario said they had everything- stamps, coins, passports, legal opinions, etc. After much delay in DXAC, DXCC status was granted, effective 29 September 1981. Then letters from around the world came in. Some Honor Roll types were afraid they might miss it, or didn't believe it when they heard it. Operation from SMOM is to be limited to a few times a year, the latest one being 10-11 March.

Mario's talk was supplemented with slides showing SMOM. They were taken by Tony Privitera, IOIJ, (who also took the photo for the 1AOKM QSL card). SMOM is located on a hill, Villa Malta, in Rome. The choice location for the antenna was at the top of the hill, of course, but this required dismantling the antenna after each operation. Mario stated that visiting amateurs are welcomed to operate from 1AOKM, but only if the station is operating at that time.

### DX Forum

The DX Forum was run by Jim Rafferty, N6RJ, John Lindholm, W1XX, and Bob Thompson, K6SSJ. Jim and Bob are members of the DX Advisory Committee, representing the Southwestern and Pacific ARRL Divisions respectively, where John was from ARRL Headquarters in Newington.

The latest from the DXAC included such items as not deleting Spratly Island from DXCC status, (a vote of 14 to 2), allowing

contacts made on 10 MHz to count for DXCC. The committee also recommended against several items, such as starting DXCC all over again, and recommended an expansion of the DX awards program. In the matter of the Pribilof Islands on granting DXCC status, the vote was 8 in favor and 8 against.

John Lindholm then explained the headquarters' policy on the accreditation criteria, which is accepted by both the DXAC and ARRL headquarters. There are three basic rules: 1) the station must be properly licensed; 2) the station must be in the country the operator claims to be operating from (is he really there?); 3) most operations are credited without question.

For DXpeditions and countries where licensing is known to be a problem, such documents or proof should include: 1) photocopy of the license; 2) passport showing entry and exit; 3) islands requiring permission from the captain.

The purpose of the above requirements is to preserve the awards program's integrity and ensure that Amateur Radio is not jeopardized.

John discussed some additional endorsable DXCC awards, including a new RTTY endorsement, effective 01 August 1984, a new 160-meter endorsement, with a suggested effective date of 01 November 1984, and a new satellite endorsement. For the latter, LEO (Low Earth Orbit) contacts would still be required for the basic award, but endorsements could be made with OSCAR-10 contacts. There is also the possibility of single band and/or WARC band DXCC in the future.

John explained the process of how suggestions were implemented. All suggestions go through the DXAC, and from there it goes to the awards committee. From this point, if approved, it goes to the Communications Department for implementation. The ARRL General Manager may reject any of the decisions made by the committees, but must do so publicly.

#### DX'ing in the USSR

One of the best presentations we have seen in a long time was brought to us by Charles and Jean Shaffer, K7NN and KM7E. The Shaffers had traveled some 12,000 miles through the Soviet Union by rail and air. Their talk was supported by excellent slides of the local Soviet life plus those of about 30 radio amateurs they visited during their tour.

Following the Shaffer presentation was that of the XU1SS operation in Cambodia, narrated by Irv Emig, W66C, and the BY4AA and BYBAA stations in China by Kan Mizoguchi, JA1BK. Kan had also provided the slides for the XU1SS operation. Operation at BYBAA is a unique station arrangement. The transmitter and receiver are 50km apart. The operator at the receiving end calls the transmitter site by phone whenever he wants the transmitter turned on or off, or to change frequency. Operating the transmitter is over another keying line.

#### Cocktail party

To relax after the day-long seminars, the DX'ers were treated to a cocktail party, that was hosted by Henry Radio. The party was held in the outdoor pool area of the Holiday Inn. As the day was one of the first warm days of the year, the atmosphere was most enjoyable.

#### Saturday evening banquet

At our table were DX'ers sporting the calls KC7V and K5VT (Arizona); WB4ZNH from Georgia; WB7BPI from Washington; K7DXB from Utah; and W6JCE, WA6POC and N6JM from California. Note that a couple of those calls belong to famous DXpeditioners.

The Master of Ceremonies was Dave Bell, W6AO, with Frank Cuevas, W6ADA, as General Chairman. Before getting into the program, Frank introduced many of the overseas DX'ers who were attending the convention. Two DXpeditions- the HKOTU operation on Malpelo, by Eduardo Londono, HK4BHC, and the VU7WCY DXpedition to the Laccadive Islands- were the main subjects of the evening. Gopal VU2GDE came all the way from India to narrate the VU7WCY show.

Every year, each of the two major DX clubs in California picks a DX'er of the Year, who is announced at the banquet. The Southern California DX Club awarded their member, Dave Bell, W6AO, with that honor, while the honors in the Northern California DX Club went to Jay O'Brien, W6GD. As Jay received his award, he mentioned that much of the credit should also go to his wife, Jan K6HND, who works closely with him on DX matters.

At the conclusion of the banquet there was a prize drawing. The pre-registration prize, a Kenwood TS930S transceiver from HRD,

went to Alice Allan (XYL of John W7YR). Other prizes from the raffle included a Henry 2K Classic amplifier, won by Len Gerald, K6ANP; a Hy-Gain 402B 2-element 40-meter beam, won by George Pugsley, W6ZZ; a Hy-Gain 300 rotator won by Frank Cuevas, W6AOA; a Tempo S15 2-meter hand-held transceiver, won by Bill Kendrick, WB6ZHT; an AEA CK-2 keyer won by Ann Marie Almeida, WB6MWA; a \$100 gift certificate from Robot Research, Inc. won by Dennis Pickering, WA6RTC; a Tristar tower raising fixture, won by Ron Pipes, WB6NBR; and the ladies' prize an O'Keefe and Merrit microwave oven, won by Brenda.

### The DX breakfast

The final gathering of the Visalia DX Convention was the buffet breakfast Sunday morning. Next to me at my table was Bob Winn, W5KNE, editor of QRZ DX, along with several members of the Central Arizona DX Association.

Prior to the two scheduled presentations, Jim Neiger, N6TJ, announced the winners of his Code Copy Contest. The "top 10" had at least 32 correct calls copied out the original 144 calls that were sent. Jim said that half of those top 10 were "carpet baggers from the East".

With 32 correct calls and tied for sixth place were Martti Laine, OH2BH; Dave Hodge, AA6RX; Randy Thompson, K5ZD; and Richard Tavan, N6XI. In fifth place were Jim McCook, W6YA, and Tom Taormina, K5RC. Bill Tippett, WOZY, copied 36 calls correctly for fourth place. In third place, with 38 calls copied correctly, Francis Donovan, W3LPL.

Marvin Smith, N6NA, received the book, The Completer DX'er for second place for copying 40 calls, and Dick Norton, N6AA, copied 42 calls out of the original 144 for first place. Dick's prize was a Bencher Paddle.

Steve Locks, W6FRZ, of the Southern California DX Club, narrated a slide presentation of the club members' stations and antennas. It was a nice presentation, although it could have been shortened as it seemed like every member in the club made the screen.

Carl Henson, WB4ZNH, flew out from Atlanta to be with us at the convention. XYL Martha WN4FVU was scheduled to come also, but could not make it. Carl's presentation, DXpedition to TT8BC in 1983, was typical of most of the Henson presentations- very enjoyable.

Carl and Martha had their station set up in a school, ate at one hotel and stayed at another. After watching these slides and listening to Carl, DX'ers who worked the Hensons should appreciate what they went through to operate from those remote parts of the world.

An extra slide presentation then followed the Henson DXpedition presentation detailing a recent multi-multi operation of V3AA in Belize.

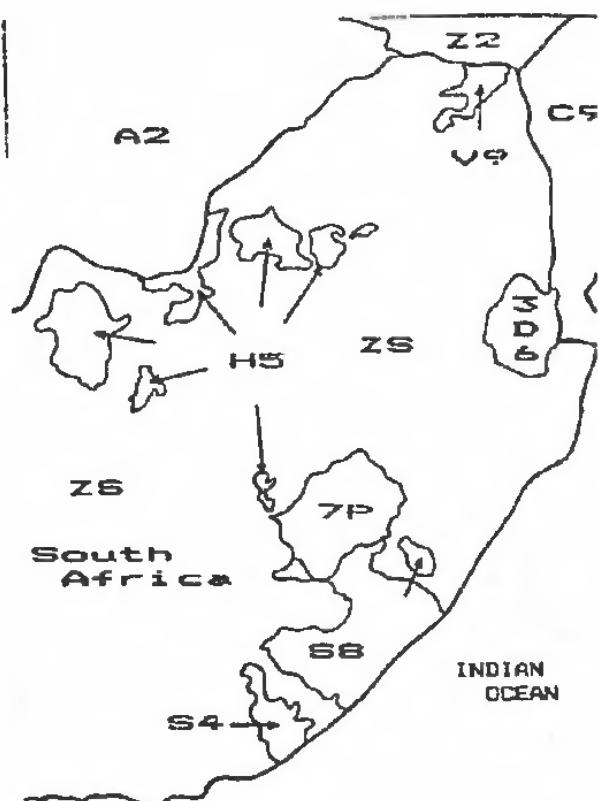
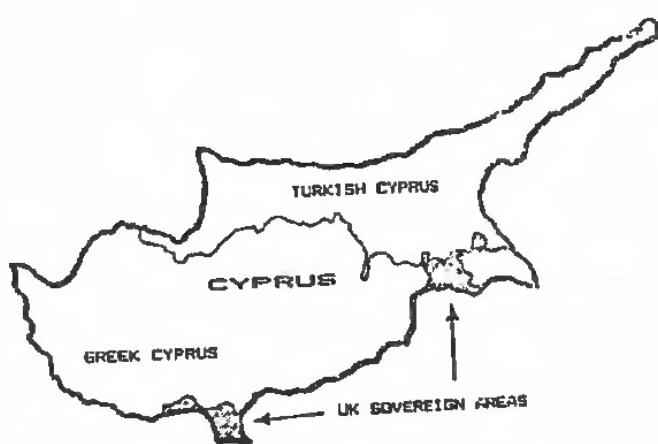
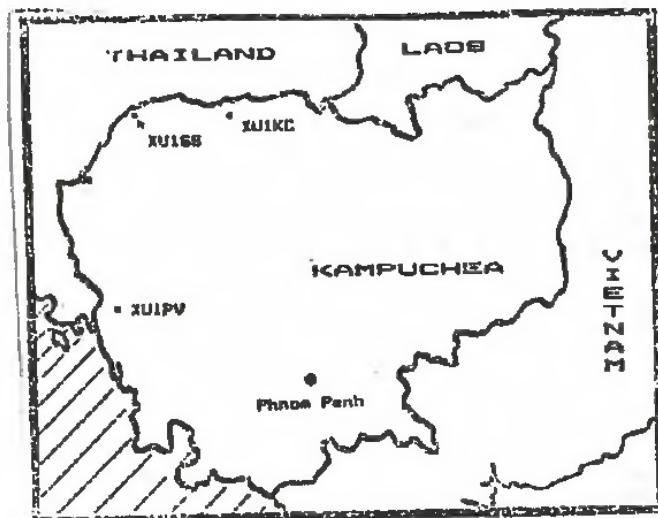
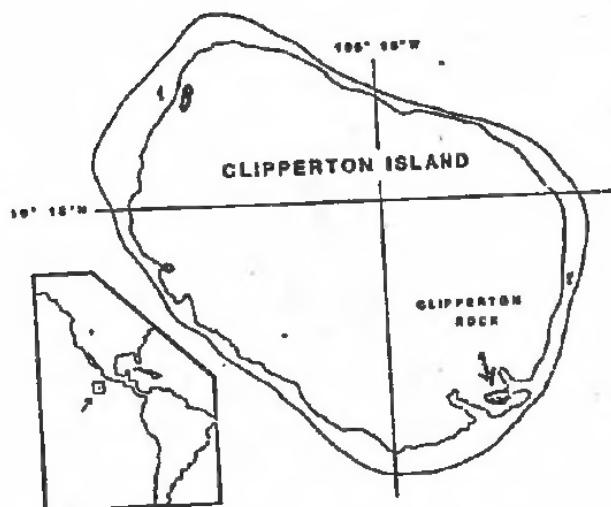
At the conclusion to the convention was the breakfast prize drawing- an ICOM IC745 transceiver. The lucky winner of this item was Calvin Lewis KR6D.

### Conclusion

Next year, the Northern California DX Club will host, although the date and location has not been decided yet. Several DX'ers feel that Visalia is not the choice for several reasons, such as it is difficult to get to via public transportation, the facilities are no longer adequate for a convention of this size, and really ....where is Visalia?

No matter where it will be held, DX'ers from all over will be attending. Judging from the various name tags, the convention is well supported by DX clubs. Included in this gathering were members from San Diego DX Club, Southern California DX Club, Central California DX Club, Northern California DX Club, Redwood Empire DX Association, Western Washington DX Club, British Columbia DX Club, Central Arizona DX Association, Southeastern DX Club, Richardson Wireless Club and the Yokohama DX Club, just to name a few.

(June 1984 Worldradio)



**Know Where they are!**

These maps have been pulled out of various QRZ DX Bulletins.

**EIDXa Net....**

The EIDXa Net will be discontinued for the Summer as has been the policy in past years. Operation will resume at 9 PM on Monday September 10, 1984.

de W0MJN

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Last minute For Sale: TR-4 w/sprk and AC power supply. \$225.00 or best offer. (319) 393-2989 Barry Buelow WAORJT.



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